

COLORADO RIVER ALLIANCE

FY23 IMPACT REPORT

Together we are helping inspire people to conserve water, pick up litter, and enjoy the River in responsible ways. Given the increasing demands on our water supply due to weather extremes and the growing population throughout the basin, our work and your support is more important than ever.

Sincerely,
Adrienne Longenecker, CFRE
Colorado River Alliance
Executive Director



education

12,494 hours of TEKs-aligned, STEM education

engagement

5,643 people received direct service

awareness

40,000 visitors to CRA's River Resource website

Inspiring Future River Heroes

IN MEMORY OF JOHN LAY

As an elementary student in the Austin area, Mr. Lay took a field trip to see the Colorado River and one of the dams on the mighty river. His eyes would light up and a broad smile spread from cheek to cheek as he described this experience. Mr. Lay's decades of leadership on the Colorado River Alliance Board ensured that thousands of school children had an opportunity to be inspired and excited by the Colorado River.

Mr. Lay's youngest daughter, Sally Allen, has followed in her father's footsteps and currently serves on the board of directors for the Colorado River Alliance. Her entire family continues to support the mission.



Our esteemed and beloved longtime Board President, John Lay, passed away April 6, 2023. After a four-year battle with ALS, Mr. Lay passed away peacefully at home surrounded by family.

Each year since 2001, the Colorado River Alliance Board has honored an individual, couple, group, business, or organization for contributions to the preservation and protection of the Texas Colorado River. Honorees have included Central Texas business leaders, corporations, environmentalists, elected officials, and artists. In 2019, to honor Mr. Lay's impact on our organization and his love of the Colorado River, the Alliance renamed the annual award the John Lay River Hero Award.

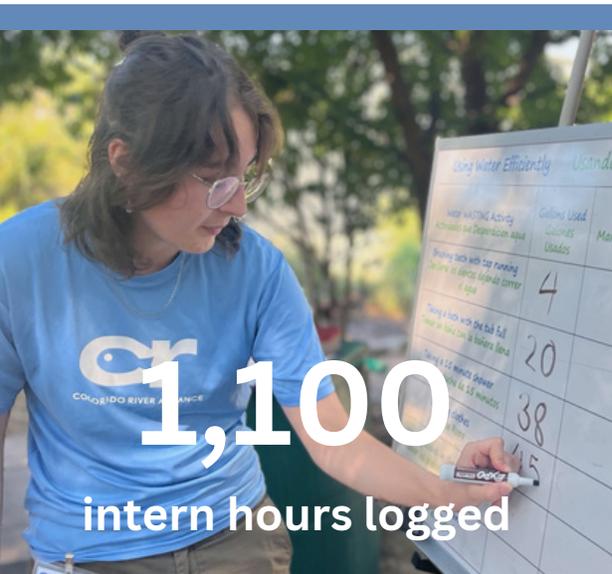
EDUCATION

WILKERSON CENTER FOR COLORADO RIVER EDUCATION



Water quality and quantity are top issues facing our state, nation, and globe. Every elementary and middle school student in Texas receives water science education - the Alliance brings that curricula to life to ensure this essential learning is fun, engaging, and memorable. Colorado River Alliance prioritizes Field Trip opportunities for Title I schools and provided **22 Field Trips to the Wilkerson Center for Colorado Education at no cost to 1,254 of students from Title I schools.**

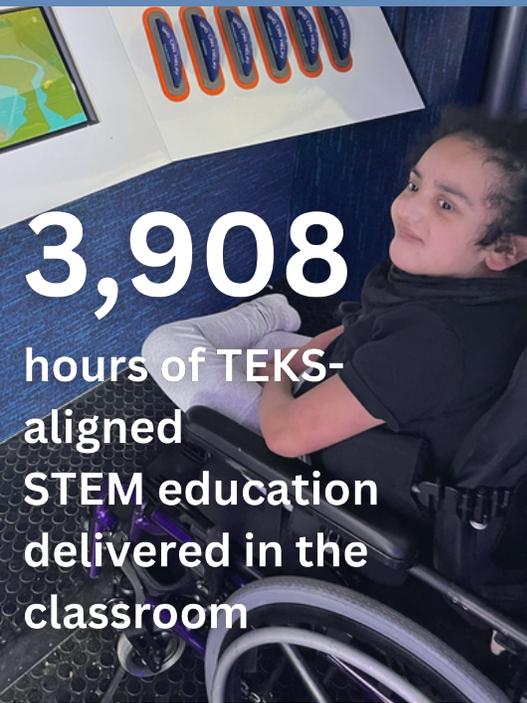
ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION INTERNSHIP PROGRAM



Colorado River Alliance offers compensated, inspiring internships as a replicable, sustainable program delivery model.

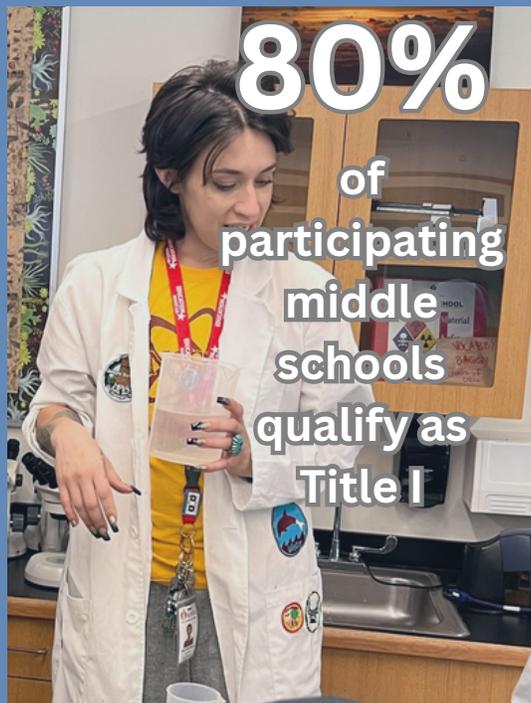
This past year, **11 interns** from St. Edward's University, Texas State University, and University of Texas at Austin facilitated educational lessons on the subjects of water science, groundwater, urban watersheds, water quality, river stewardship, and water conservation.

THE MOBILE RIVER: IN THE CLASSROOM



3,908

hours of TEKS-aligned STEM education delivered in the classroom



80%

of participating middle schools qualify as Title I



977

middle school students

The Mobile River delivered the award-winning traveling science center and week-long programming to **977 middle school** students at Bedicheck, Burnet, Dobie, Manor, and Rawson Saunders Middle Schools.

THE MOBILE RIVER: EDUCATION OUTREACH

Colorado River Alliance, through partnerships with **14 organizations** including El Buen Samaritano and the LBJ Presidential Library, brought water science education to Texans up and down the River Basin. In addition to **8 community events**, the Mobile River delivered programming to **200 children** at Boys and Girls Clubs in **Llano, Kingsland, Burnet, and Marble Falls**. Summer programming culminated at the River Heroes of the Highland Lakes event in June at the Lakeside Pavillion in Marble Falls.



1,267

community members



5

counties



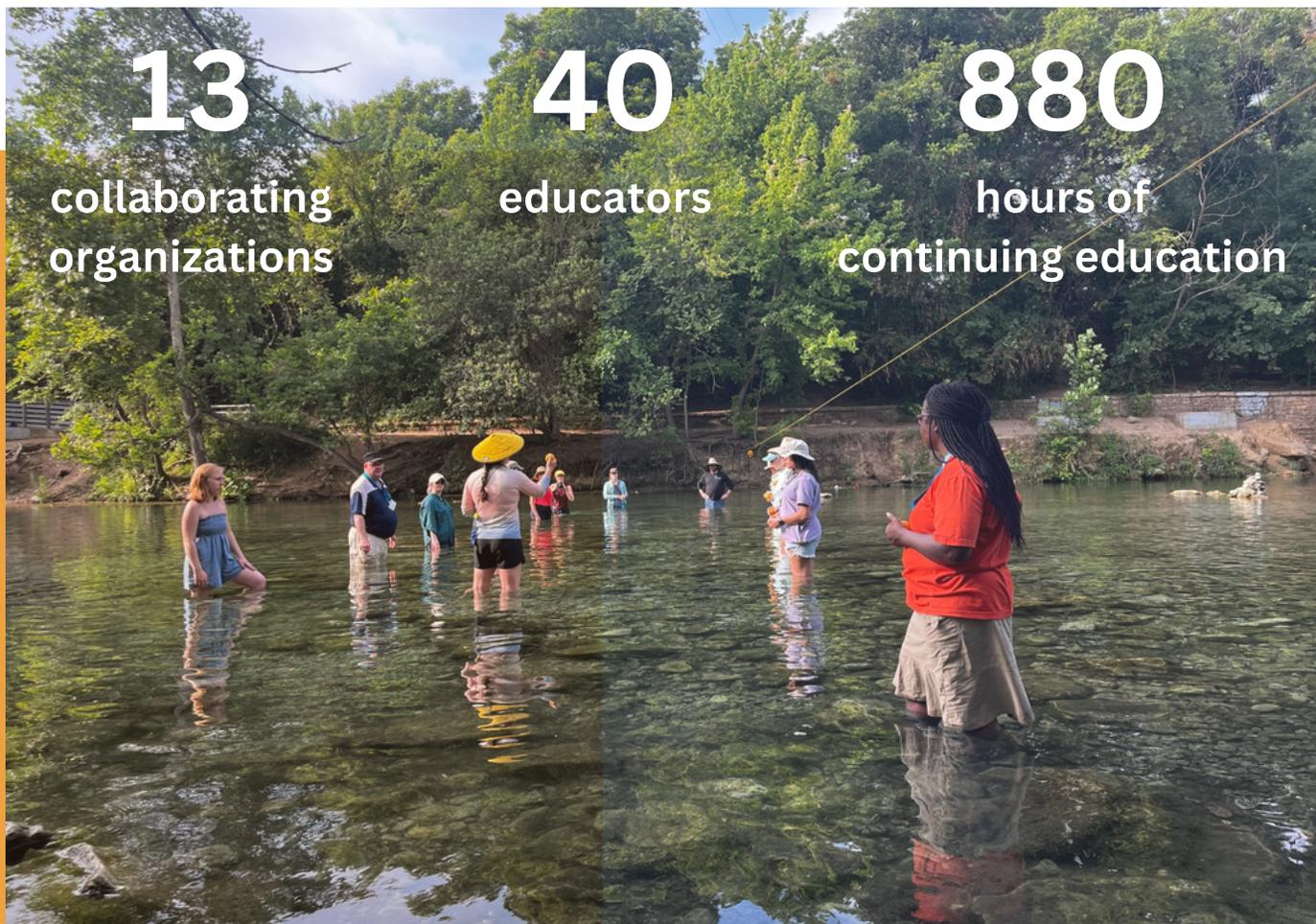
14

partners

GROUNDWATER TO THE GULF

Groundwater to the Gulf (G2G), a fieldtrip based, summer institute, provided **free continuing education** to educators throughout the Texas Colorado River Basin. **Forty (40) participating educators** received hands-on field-trip experiences with local water experts and unlocked **FREE** curricula, TEKS-aligned activities, and resources provided by the Alliance and G2G partners to utilize in their classrooms.

Groundwater to the Gulf exemplifies the Colorado River Alliance's commitment to collaboration by **uniting 13 Central Texas youth education and conservation organizations** in a week-long educators' institute that addresses water and river topics from the Colorado River's origins in Northwest Texas to its destination in the Gulf of Mexico.



Groundwater to Gulf Partners:

Austin Water Wildland Conservation Division, Barton Springs Edwards Aquifer Conservation District, City of Austin Parks and Recreation, City of Austin Watershed Protection, Guadalupe-Blanco River Authority, Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center, Lower Colorado River Authority, Texas Master Naturalists, Texas Parks and Wildlife, The Meadows Center for Water and the Environment, Westcave Outdoor Discovery Center, Wimberly Valley Watershed Association, UT Bureau of Economic Geology

ENGAGEMENT

28TH ANNUAL LAKE TRAVIS CLEANUP



554
volunteers



12,000
pounds of trash and
debris removed from
our waterways



15
community partners

Since it's founding in 1994, the Lake Travis Cleanup brings together volunteers to pull trash and debris from the Colorado River. In it's 28th year, the Lake Travis Cleanup brought together **554 volunteers** in the largest waterway, parks, and underwater cleanup in Texas.

The Colorado River Alliance led the 28th Annual Lake Travis Cleanup and ongoing urban creek cleanups in partnership with **15 community partners** including Travis County Parks, Keep Austin Beautiful, Dive World Austin, and Tom's Dive and Swim to **remove a collective 12,000 pounds of trash and debris from our watershed.**



“Texans have depended on the Colorado River for life itself for centuries so it's fitting that we make time to ensure Lake Travis is pollution free... Many thanks to the Colorado River Alliance for recruiting volunteers!”

- **Commissioner Ann Howard**

MEET OUR RIVER HEROES

JOHN LAY RIVER HERO HONOREES



THE MCLEAN FAMILY

Bill McLean, and his family Carlotta, William, and John Henry, were honored as the 2022 John Lay River Heroes. Bill served the CRA Board of Directors from 2001 – 2013, serving as President from 2008-2011, immediately preceding Mr. Lay and following Mrs. Pam Akins. Bill and Carlotta continue to support CRA in the decade since his board service as Tributary League Members, sponsors, and in-kind donors.

As professionals who share a passion for natural resource preservation, Bill and Carlotta are renowned for business dealings resulting in a positive net environmental impact.

As parents, Bill and Carlotta are providing avenues for their sons to develop a conservational awareness and natural resources preservation mindset. Both sons, especially John Henry, have donated their time in support of the mission of the Alliance.

In honor of Bill's past leadership of CRA, in appreciation of Bill and Carlotta's current support, and to highlight a shared investment in the future through engagement of today's young people, please congratulations to Bill, Carlotta, William, and John Henry McLean, the 2022 John Lay River Hero Honorees.



2022 JOHN LAY RIVER HEROES

THE RIVER SOCIETY

2003

founded by Emily Seiders



2023

re-launched by Mikah Berlingeri

The River Society is a group of emerging community leaders dedicated to preserving and protecting the Texas Colorado River by attracting new people to support CRA, connecting members through unique social events, networking opportunities, and outdoor activities, and cultivating new leaders to further CRA's mission of championing the long-term vitality of the Texas Colorado River through education and engagement.



River Society Members

Parker Badger	Reagan Flume Jamail*
Tracy Benedict	Lisa Leyva
Mikah Berlingeri*	Jessica Nelson
James Breed	Mandy & Shane Niles
Cam Budd*	Kobi Owen
Benjamin Burrow	Kyle Peco
Alex De La Fuente*	Miller Polly
Trask Dix	Grace Raulet
Randol Flume	Killian Regan
Juliette Fray	Christine Roberts
Sloane Garvey	Sue & Diego Rubio
Ryan Gjerset	Natalie Schuessler
Carson Harrison	James Smith
Aubry Hinners	Andy Trimble*
Lindsey Holubec	James Tyng
Mickey Jamail	

*Leadership Council



Their generosity ensures today's youth develop a passion for water stewardship and a science-based understanding of our interdependence on the River.

Dedicated to protection and conservation

Betsy & Hughes Abell
Pam & Marty Akins
Wick Alexander
Kathi & David Allen
Sally & DJ Allen
Wilson & Janet Allen
Lydia & Tom Barton
Joe Beal
Bryan & Katherine Beckworth
Laura & Kyndel Bennett
Britt & Elaine Benton
Fayruz Benyousef
Becky Bonham
Chip & Tamara Bray
Scott & Carolyn Bryant
Ben & Susan Bufkin
Susan Butler
Ryan & Amanda Byrd
Jim Canning
Charlotte Carothers
Hunter & Cathi Carothers
Bergan & Stan Casey

Madeleine & Buck Cody
Debbie & Tim Collins
Colin Corgan
Scott Covington
Melissa & Matt Dausch
Cindy & Jim DeCosmo
Aric & Ali Denton
Kenny & Benita Dryden
Marshall & Elizabeth Durrett
Chad & Holly Eppes
Meg & John Erskine
Katherine Farmer Thornhill
Gary & Susan Farmer
Drake & Kristin Fason
Sandy Flynn
Craig & Alyssa Gilden
Brian & Sarah Haegelin
Breck & Jennifer Harrison
Cindy & Pete Hayes
Dan & Paula Herd
Sean Holcomb
Paul & Lea Holubec

Jeff & Creithon Honeck
Jeff & Jane Howard
Keith & Joyce Jackson
David & Jody Kellam
Steven Knebel
Allison & Patrick Laughlin
Jill Lay
Mollie & Steve Leach
Paul & Wendy Linehan
Adrienne Longenecker
Catherine Lucchesi
Michael Lucksinger
Carol & Tom Martine
Matt Mathias
Terry McDaniel
Lynn & Mike McHenry
Bill & Carlotta McLean
Meg Moore
Stephanie J. Moore
Brittany Morrison Chevere
Chris Mugica
Melinda & Robert Neblett

Walt Penn
Lesley & John Pitts
Lynda D. Rife & Wallace M. Vog
Tim W. Riley
Terry & Amy Sanchez
Chad & Ruthie Seiders
Emily & Rick Seiders
Clint Small
Bryan Whitaker Teeple
Leslie & Tim Timmerman
Dean & Marci Tomme
Andy Trimble
Ken Turlington
Ann Turnbull Lowry
Susan & Gilbert Turrieta
Katey & Augusto Villalon
Meg & Dathan Voelter
Seth Wallace
Sarah & Wade Webster
Peggy & Matt Winkler
Tomi & Pete Winstead



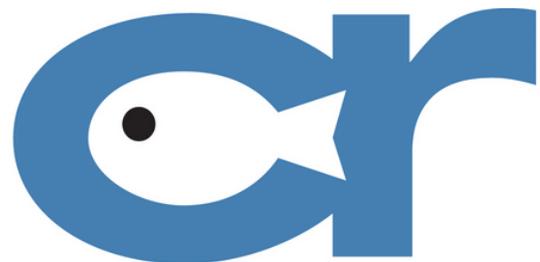
*Your support
inspires future
river heroes!*

Advisory Council

Pam Akins - Joseph Beal - Kyndel Bennett - Paul Bury - John Dickerson, III - Gary Farmer - Dan Herd -
Laura Huffman - Arthur Milberger - Robert Neblett - Peter Pincoffs - Pat Robertson - Andy Sansom -
Ray Wilkerson - Peggy Winkler

Board of Directors

Wade Webster, President
John Erskine, Immediate Past President
John Pitts, Jr., Development Chair
Jennifer Walker, Secretary
Justin Westmoreland, Treasurer
Breck Harrison, At-Large Officer
Sally Allen
Bryan Beckworth
Mikah Berlingeri
Susan Bufkin
Susan Butler
Lindsey Holubec
Hondo Powell
Augusto Villalon



Contact Us

✉ Christine@ColoradoRiver.org

🌐 www.coloradoriver.org